

III. REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 9, 10, 12, 13 and 40 are pending in this application. By this amendment, claims 14-17 have been canceled. Applicant does not acquiesce in the correctness of the rejections and reserves the right to present specific arguments regarding any rejected claims not specifically addressed. Further, Applicant reserves the right to pursue the full scope of the subject matter of the original claims in a subsequent patent application that claims priority to the instant application. Reconsideration in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

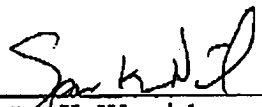
In the Office Action, claims 14-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Stafford (U.S. Patent No. 6,168,126 B1), hereafter "Stafford." Claims 1-7, 9, 10, 12, 13 and 40 have been indicated as containing allowable subject matter. Applicant gratefully appreciates the indication of allowable subject matter.

Applicants have canceled claims 14-17. The Office has indicated all other claims are allowable.

In light of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that all claims are in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner require anything further to place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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